

IN THE SUPREME COURT, STATE OF WYOMING

APRIL TERM, A.D. 2004

IN THE MATTER OF THE)
)
JUDICIAL COUNCIL)

**ORDER MEMORIALIZING THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE
JUDICIAL COUNCIL AND THE REESTABLISHMENT OF THE
JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF WYOMING**

THIS MATTER came before the Court by direction of the Board of Judicial Policy and Administration. After review of Court records, the Court deeming it necessary and proper to memorialize the history and development of the Judicial Council finds:

WHEREAS, on August 30, 1957, by Resolution, members of the Wyoming Bench signed a resolution establishing a Judicial Conference comprised of Supreme Court Justices and District Court Judges for the purpose of creating a forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences of the members of the judiciary to the end that a uniform high level of judicial administration could be achieved throughout the state;

WHEREAS, on June 8, 1981, by Order, the Supreme Court created the Judicial Council, comprised of Supreme Court Justices, District Court Judges, County Court Judges, Justices of the Peace, and Municipal Judges for the purpose of establishing a forum and means for exchange of ideas and experiences among its members and for providing an advisory body to the Supreme Court with regard to methods of court improvement, court reform and judicial education;

WHEREAS, on January 14, 1994, by Order, the Supreme Court dissolved the Judicial Conference and recreated the Judicial Council, comprised of Supreme Court Justices, District Court Judges, County Court Judges, Justices of the Peace, and Municipal Judges for the purpose of judicial education and to exchange ideas and information to promote the harmony of its members and to strengthen their position and that of the judiciary in the administration of justice;

WHEREAS, on January 23, 1996, by Order, the Supreme Court established the Judicial Branch Advisory Council, comprised of the Chief Justice of the Wyoming Supreme Court, a justice of the Supreme Court, the President of the District Court Division of the Judicial Council, a district judge, the President of the County Court Division of the Judicial Council, a county court judge, the Clerk of the Supreme Court as an ex officio member, a district court clerk as ex officio member, a

county court clerk as ex officio member, and the court coordinator as ex officio member for the purpose of providing more open communication and exchange of ideas and information between the various courts of the State of Wyoming;

WHEREAS, on May 24, 2000, by Order, the Supreme Court established the Board of Judicial Policy and Administration, comprised of Supreme Court Justices, District Court Judges, Circuit Court Judges, and a Justice of the Peace for the purpose of promoting the continued communication, cooperation, and efficient management of all levels of Wyoming courts; and

WHEREAS, the Court finding it necessary to clarify the purpose of the Judicial Council, it is therefore

ORDERED that the Judicial Council of the State of Wyoming be, and hereby is, reestablished as follows:

Composition

The Judicial Council shall consist of Supreme Court Justices, District Court Judges, Circuit Court Judges (including Full-time Magistrates), and Municipal Court Judges of the State of Wyoming. Those persons retired from such positions and not engaged in the active practice of law shall be ex-officio nonvoting members of the Conference from which they retired.

Purpose

The purpose of the Judicial Council is to provide educational and organizational opportunities for Wyoming Judges.

Conferences

The Judicial Council shall consist of the following Conferences:

- a. Supreme Court Justices;
- b. District Court Judges;
- c. Circuit Court Judges; and
- d. Municipal Court Judges.

Officers

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court or his designee shall be chairman of the Judicial Council. The State Court Administrator shall be secretary-treasurer of the Judicial Council.

At the annual meeting, each Conference shall elect a chairman.

The chairman of the Judicial Council shall supervise its affairs. The chairman of each Conference shall supervise the affairs of its Conference. The State Court Administrator shall assist Conference chairmen and all committees appointed by them.

Voting

The members of the Judicial Council shall vote only upon matters which do not limit the constitutional, statutory, or inherent authority of the members of the Conferences. The majority vote of the members of the Judicial Council present shall be the act of the Council provided, however, if three (3) members of any one Conference call for a Conference vote on the act of the Council, a majority vote of each Conference will be necessary to carry such act.

Meetings

The Judicial Council shall meet annually at the City in which is held the annual meeting of the Wyoming State Bar and during the month in which such meeting is held, the exact time and place to be designated by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Special meetings of the Judicial Council may be called by the Chief Justice to be held at the times and places designated by him. Special meetings of a Conference may be called by its chairman to be held at the times and places designated by him to conduct business which is within the constitutional, statutory, and inherent authority of the Conference.

Withdrawal from Membership

Any Conference may withdraw from membership in the Judicial Council effective upon the filing in the office of the Clerk of the Supreme Court of a written notice of withdrawal signed by the Conference Chairman.

DATED this ____ day of June, 2004.

BY THE COURT:

WILLIAM U. HILL
Chief Justice